

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SINAI 2109

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FOR KONTOS FROM HUNT

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: COLONEL SHIMON LEVINSON

REF: STATE 225405

1. AS I MENTIONED LEVINSON HAS A NUMBER OF FEELERS ON ONWARD ASSIGNMENTS. I GATHER THAT THE IDF SUGGESTED A YEAR AT THE ISRAELI DEFENSE COLLEGE AND THERE WAS A SUGGESTION THAT HE COULD GO TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS HEAD OF THE STRATEGIC STUDIES BUREAU. ALSO, THE WASHINGTON PROSPECT IS ALIVE BUT NOTHING DEFINITIVE IS LIKELY TO BE DECIDED UNTIL NEXT YEAR. SHIMON FEELS THAT THE DEFENSE COLLEGE WOULD ONLY BE SATISFACTORY IF COUPLED WITH AGREEMENT OF A FOLLOW-ON ASSIGNMENT. HE BELIEVES THAT IF HE IS GOING TO MAKE A MOVE FROM ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE HE IS IN THE BEST POSITION TO DO SO NOW AND THAT IF HE STAYED IN THE MILITARY FOR ANOTHER YEAR WITHOUT A CLEAR INDICATION OF THE FUTURE HE WILL HAVE LOST SOME OF HIS POLITICAL SUPPORT.

2. LEVINSON IN HIS TALK WITH URQUHART SIMPLY ASKED
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FOR A JOB WITH UNDP. HIS BACKGROUND AS YOU KNOW IS IN THE EXECUTIVE MANAGERIAL AREA. HE OBVIOUSLY HAS SPECIAL TALENT IN COORDINATION AND LIAISON TYPE ACTIVITIES. HIS FIRST PREFERENCE IS TO GO TO WORK IN NEW YORK BUT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER A FIELD ASSIGNMENT IF ONE WERE OFFERED.

3. LEVINSON HAS PROMISED TO SEND ME BIO DATA ON LEVRAN

AND I WILL PASS IT ALONG WHEN I GET IT. LEVINSON'S
TRANSFER WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY HIS CONFLICT WITH
CHIEF OF STAFF EYTAN GOING BACK TO THE DAYS WHEN
EYTAN WAS COMMANDER OF THE NORTHERN FRONT. EVIDENTLY
EYTAN HAS WANTED TO REPLACE LEVINSON SINCE HE BECAME
CHIEF OF STAFF. IN A NUTSHELL EYTAN HAS
REPLACED LEVINSON WITH A PERSONAL FRIEND, A FORMER
CLASSMATE AND IN DOING SO HAS RAISED THE BILLET TO A
BRIGADIER LEVEL. WHILE I HAVE NOT MET LEVRAN, I SUS-
PECT THAT WE WILL FIND IN THE FUTURE THAT OUR LIAISON
SUPPORT WILL BE MORE DIRECTLY FOCUSED TO THE CHIEF OF
STAFF WITH LESS EMPHASIS ON OUR CIVILIAN AND POLITI-
CAL RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE GOI. THIS IS ONLY A
SUSPICION AND I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONFIRM UNTIL I
HAVE MET LEVRAN AND WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO
KNOW HIM.
HUNT

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